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HIGH-LEVEL INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING ON THE MID-TERM GLOBAL REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE 1990s

Draft decision submitted by Bangladesh on behalf of the least developed countries

The Trade and Development Board,

Recalling the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and the Cartagena Commitment adopted at the eighth session of UNCTAD,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 48/171 of 21 December 1993 in which it decided, in paragraph 16, to convene a High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to conduct, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action and its resolution 45/206 of 21 December 1990, a Mid-term Global Review on the implementation of the Programme of Action in the early part of September 1995, or any other suitable date during the second half of 1995,

Recalling also that General Assembly resolution 48/171, in paragraph 18, requested the Trade and Development Board to consider, at its spring session in 1994, the elaboration of the preparatory activities for the Mid-term Global Review Meeting, including intergovernmental, expert, sectoral and inter-agency preparatory meetings and the substantive documentation,

Noting that the prime objective of the Programme of Action is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate their growth and development and in the process, to set them on the path of sustained growth and development,

Emphasizing that the Mid-term Global Review of the implementation of the Programme of Action provides a unique opportunity for the least developed countries and their development partners to take new measures with a view to enhancing the implementation of the Programme of Action during the rest of the 1990s,

Stressing that adequate resources should be provided to ensure full and effective participation of LDCs in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting and its preparatory process,

1. Recommends to the General Assembly that:

(a) The High-level Intergovernmental Meeting should be convened from 26 September to 6 October 1995, to be preceded by a one-day meeting of senior officials on 25 September 1995;

(b) The High-level Intergovernmental Meeting should, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/206, carry out the Mid-term Global Review of the situation of LDCs, consider new measures as necessary, and accordingly report to the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(c) In order to prepare for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting, one session of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries should be convened in early 1995 for the duration of one week;

(d) Regional follow-up meetings should be organized by the relevant regional commissions, in close co-ordination with UNCTAD;

(e) Sectoral appraisals should be undertaken by United Nations system agencies in their respective fields;

(f) An inter-agency meeting should be convened in early 1995;

2. Welcome the steps initiated by the UNCTAD secretariat to convene preparatory expert group meetings and urges donors to provide adequate extrabudgetary resources for that purpose, including for the preparation of substantive documentation;

3. Invites the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to start consultations as soon as possible, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/171 of 21 December 1993, with a view to enabling the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session to decide on the venue for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting;

4. Recommends to the General Assembly to defray the cost of participation of two representatives from each LDC in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting from the regular budget of the United Nations;

5. Requests the General Assembly to ensure that UNCTAD has sufficient resources and capacity to make necessary preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting and its follow-up;

6. Requests the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to submit to the Trade and Development Board at its forty-first session, second part, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present decision.